Madras Education and Public Health (1948) Department

Ms. SERIES.

G.O. No. 4177. P. H

Dated 9. 12. 48

[Despatch Abstract.]

Conference – Second Health Minister's conference
Resolutions – regarding Establishment
of Chairs in Industrial Medicine

SECOND HEALTH MINISTERS' CONFERENCE 4 August 1948.

Resolution on Agenda Item No.2.

INDUSTRIAL HEALTH.

(a) The Conference approves of the broad outlines of the scheme for the development of an industrial health service put forward in the "Memorandum on the Formation of an Integral Industrial Health Organisation in India". For the present, in view of the undeveloped nature of medical relief available to the community as a whole, it is desirable to include, as part of the industrial health scheme, provision for medical relief also. In the working of the scheme the closest possible co-operation between the Employees' State Insurance Corporation and Provincial Governments is essential and the Conference recommends that such co-operation should be established and maintained at the highest possible level.

(b) In future of time the objective should be to reduce, in proportion to the expansion of health services for the general population, the provision now made for medical relief under the industrial health organisation and to enable the latter to take up, in an increasing measure, its legitimate tasks of controlling the health hazards of the employee in his working environment, provision for rehabilitation, research into industrial health problems and the training of the required health personnel.

(c) The Conference resolves that steps should be taken to establish Chairs in Industrial Medicine in selected medical college together with the provision of a certain number of beds, in order that work in connection with the investigation of industrial health conditions, detection and treatment of occupational disease, measures necessary for prevention and rehabilitation work can all be undertaken. A programme of training for various types of personnel required under the industrial health scheme should also be built up in association with these centres. In addition, it is essential to develop the existing training facilities at the All-India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health and make it also a centre for teaching and research.

In view of the Employees' State Insurance Act and the imminent enactment of the Factories Act, 1948, immediate steps should be taken by Provinces to initiate Schemes for the training of such medical, nursing and other staff as are envisaged in the above legislative measures for the welfare of factory workers.

(d) ~~This Conf~~ A Medical Branch should be established in the Inspectorate of Factories under the Labour Ministries of the Centre and Provinces for reasons set out in the Memorandum.

(e) This Conference resolves that lady doctors should be appointed as Medical Inspectors of Factories in the Inspectorates of Factories, Central and Provincial, with a view to formulating schemes for the promotion of measures for the health, safety and welfare of women and children workers in factories.

(f) This Conference commends for consideration by the Central Legislature an amendment of Clause 3, Section 45, in the Bill to consolidate and amend the law regulating labour in factories now under consideration. This amendment is for the purpose of so enlarging the composition of the proposed unit under the clause as to permit of the inclusion of certain types of health workers, who will be concerned with the sanitation of the factory and the supervision of the working environment of the employee in respect of his health, safety and welfare. The clause should be amended as shown below.

"In every factory wherein more than 500 workers are ordinarily employed there shall be provided and maintained

(P.T.O.)

one ambulance room of the prescribed size containing the prescribed equipment and in charge of such medical and nursing staff as may be prescribed. In addition there shall be provided and maintained such other types of health staff, and equipment as may be prescribed for the supervision of the ~~santi~~ sanitation of the factory and of the working environment of the employee in respect of his health, safety and welfare. This staff should be under the technical control of the local health authority.

/True Copy/,

SUPERINTENDENT,
Madras Record Office,
-5-1953.

ss/22.5.

Letter No.4177, Public Health, dated the 9th December 1948.

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of Health, New Delhi.

Sir,

Conference - Second HEALTH MINISTERS' CONFERENCE - Resolutions regarding establishment of chairs in Industrial Medicine.

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With reference to resolution 2 passed by the Second Health Ministers' Conference communicated with the Government of India letter No.F.5.2/47 P & R dated the 25th August 1948, on the above subject, I am directed to forward a copy of letter from the Surgeon-General No.93526, Res.1/48 dated the 15th October 1948 and to state that in the circumstances stated therein, the suggestions of the Government of India to establish chairs in Industrial Medicine will be considered as soon as the scheme referred to in the Surgeon-General's letter is put into operation. The other points raised in the resolution are under consideration of this Government in the Development Department. I am in this connection to state that the bill referred to in clause (f) of the above resolutions has already become law.

Yours faithfully,

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/True Copy/

Endorsement No.67936/48.6DI. Public Health, dated 8-12-48.

Copy communicated to the Surgeon General.

2. He is requested to submit proposals in the matter in due course.

To the Surgeon General.

/True Copy/

SUPERINTENDENT,
Madras Record Office,
29-8-1953.

ss/22.5.